

SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 3 line 28 and ending on page 4 line 7 as follows: --

In such case the tubular ends may be heated by passing a high frequency current in circumferential direction through the tubular walls near the tubular ends that are to be joined and wherein the presence of cold spots along the circumference of the heated tubular ends is reduced by arranging a series of longitudinal ferrite bars around the outer surface of the tubular ends and/or within the interior thereof. Furthermore the tubular ends may be heated by passing high frequency electrical current through the tubular ends by means of a series of electrodes which are pressed against the inner and/or outer surface of the tubular end adjacent to the tips of the teeth and/or sinusoidal end faces. --